

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Sponsor**

**AMEND Senate Bill No. 3229\***

**House Bill No. 2972**

**FILED**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Comm. Amdt. \_\_\_\_\_

by deleting all language after the caption and by substituting instead the following:

WHEREAS, the search for truth, knowledge, wisdom and understanding should be encouraged; and

WHEREAS, this search should be integral to and define a quality education; and

WHEREAS, our Constitution and that of these United States confirm Thomas Jefferson's assertion that the power of the state should not be used "to intrude into the field of opinion and to restrain the profession or propagation of principles" as it "at once destroys all religious liberty"; and

WHEREAS, the theory of evolution and the theory of creationism, as those terms are commonly understood, both set forth ideas concerning the nature of the universe and its existence; and

WHEREAS, it is against the notions of liberty of thought and an inhibition to the search for truth, wisdom, knowledge and understanding that teachers be compelled to teach or prohibited from teaching any specific theory of the origins of the universe or that they fear reprisals if they offer criticisms of any such theory; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

Section 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

No teacher shall be subject to censure, dismissal, reprisal or discipline because that teacher offers any criticism of or teaches any theory of the origins of the universe and all its components, material and immaterial, conscious and unconscious.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare  
requiring it.